

PRATHAM BOOKS
A Book in Every Child's Hand

Level 3

Tara Finds Her Stars

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Tara could not sit still! The train seemed to be going very slowly. Tara peered out through the window. Lights winked from windows in tall buildings.

As everyone in the bogey prepared to sleep, one passenger asked Tara, “Beti, I hope you are not running away from home?”

“No, no!” said Tara. Early in the morning,Tara got off the train at Meenapur.



She walked towards the banks of the river Ganga and got into a crowded boat.
“Who could this girl be, travelling all alone?” wondered many people on the boat.
As Tara got out, the boatman asked, “Have you run away from home?”
Tara smiled and said, “No, no, sir, I am going home!”



Tara came to a forest. She took out her camera. A deer looked at her and seemed to be asking what she was doing there! Tara aimed her camera and clicked.

“I’ve come home, dear deer, I’ve come home to the village of my ancestors.”



As the sun set, Tara started walking on a rope bridge. The bridge swung gently with her steps. She smiled as she thought of what awaited her on the other side.



Once on the other side, Tara stopped to take out her map and plan her way forward. She closed her eyes and took a deep breath.
Ah, the earthy smell of green trees and plants in this forest was lovely!



Tara made a small bonfire. She ate some food that she had packed and settled down under the sky. Stars twinkled like friends. Tomorrow she would cross the forest by foot, and then take a bus to the village where her great grandparents lived.

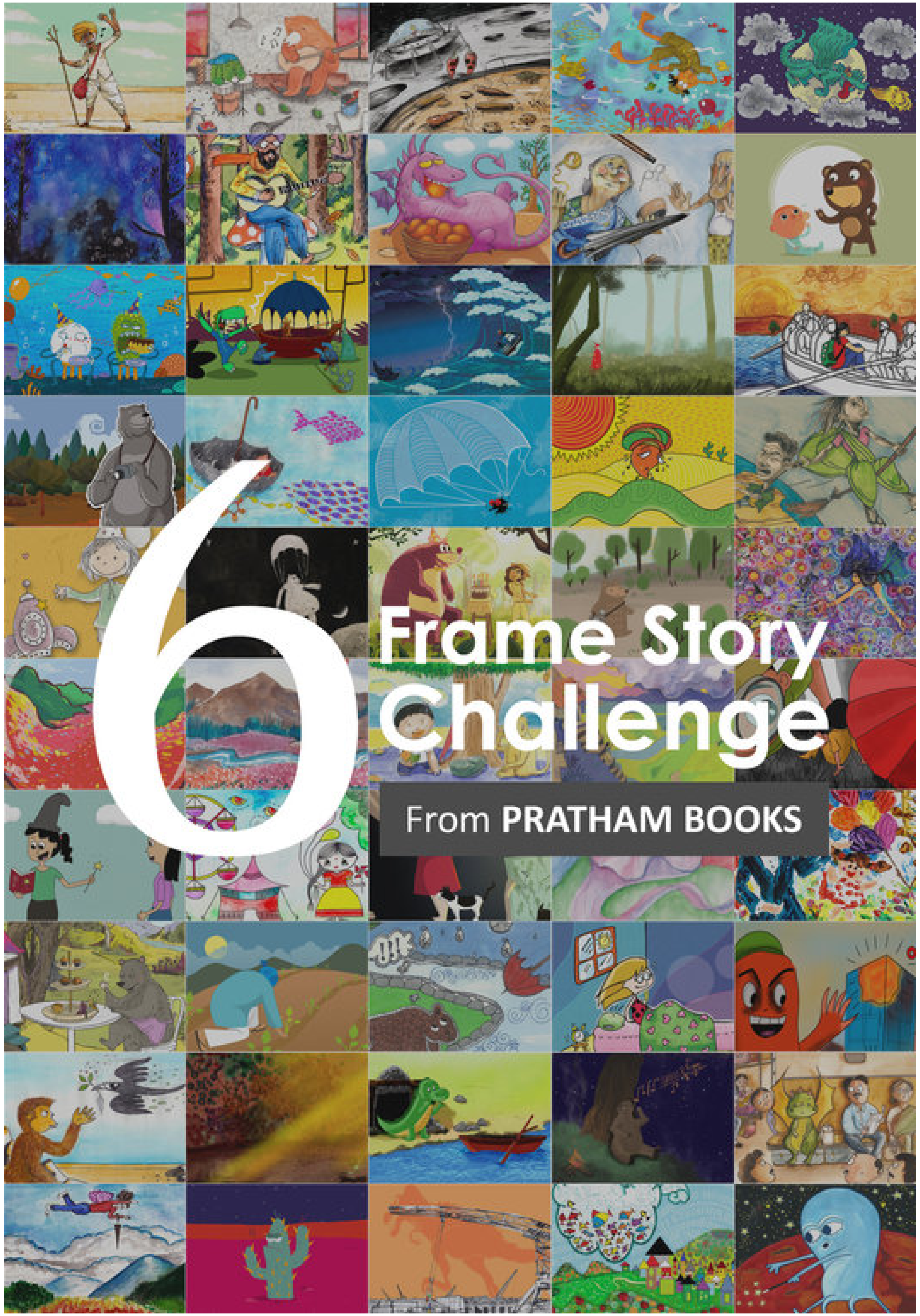
For today, Tara Prakash, famous wildlife photographer, was just going to sleep under the stars and dream about home.



Dear Reader,
Have you tried counting the stars? How many stars do you think you can count?

If you had to stay alone in a forest, name some of the things that you should have with you.

Which are the days in a month when stars are most visible to the eye? Why?



#6FrameStoryChallenge: A Carnival of Art

The illustrations in this book were created as part of the #6FrameStoryChallenge, an online campaign run by Pratham Books to build a rich bank of illustrations for StoryWeaver. The essence of the #6FrameStoryChallenge was to tell a good story using just 6 illustrations.

The campaign inspired nearly 70 illustrators to donate their time and skills to India’s first open-source story-publishing platform for children. What started out as an experimental campaign soon blossomed into a carnival of art, birthing nearly 500 new illustrations.

These wordless narratives cut across language barriers, opening up a world of possibilities, encouraging StoryWeaver’s growing community to dream up multiple stories around these images. The #6FrameStoryChallenge is a powerful reminder of the need for collaboration, to get closer to our mission: “A Book in Every Child’s Hand.”

Story Attribution:

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This story has been inspired by an entry to the #6FrameStoryChallenge, an illustration campaign conducted by Pratham Books.

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Tara Finds Her Stars
(English)

Do you like sleeping under the stars? Tara does! Join her as she makes an exciting journey.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.